

Listing of the Claims

The claims are listed without amendment for convenience.

1-7 (canceled)

8. (original) A method of controlling use of a content object that includes text, the method including:

receiving data representing the object at a user device;

receiving at the user device an initial set of data representing usage rights associated with said object, the initial set of data defining a first set of rights that are permitted, and a second set of rights that are not permitted; and

upon receiving a request to perform a function using said content, checking said initial set of data representing usage rights to determine whether said function should be allowed, and

wherein a drag and drop function is among those that are not permitted.

9. (original) The method of claim 8 wherein a modify function is among those that are not permitted.

10. (original) The method of claim 9 wherein printing and saving functions are among those that are not permitted.

11. (original) The method of claim 8 wherein the second set of rights is expressly defined in said data representing usage rights, rather than being inferred by their absence from the first set of rights.

12. (original) The method of claim 8 wherein, if said check determines that said function should not be allowed, then engaging in a transaction with a remote server that results in receipt of revised data representing usage rights at the user device.

13. (canceled)

14. (original) A method of controlling email comprising:

receiving data representing email at a user device;

receiving at the user device an initial set of data representing usage rights associated with the email, the initial set of data defining a first set of rights that are permitted; and

upon receiving a request to perform a function using the email, checking said initial set of data representing usage rights to determine whether the function should be allowed,

wherein a transmission function is among those that are not permitted, and

wherein upon a blocked transmission, querying a remote server to determine criteria for transmission, and if the criteria is met, receiving an updated set of data defining a second set of rights that are permitted, the second set of rights including transmission rights.

15-20 (canceled)